

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Altman on December 23, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 8, the second line, please replace " γ -glyidoxypropyl-trimethoxy" with,

-- γ -glycidoxypropyl-trimethoxy --.

In claim 8, the third line, please replace " γ -glyidoxypropyl-methyldiethoxy" with,

-- γ -glycidoxypropyl-methyldiethoxy --.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6, 8-10, and 12-15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In regard to independent claim 1, Okubo et al. (JP 07-090238) is the closest prior art. Okubo et al. does not teach the ratio of the dihydroxynaphthalene epoxy to the other epoxy

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components is a 3:1 weight ratio. Examples 2, 4 and 5 in table 1 use both dihydroxynaphthalene epoxy and another epoxy, namely bisphenol A epoxy. The weight ratio for example 2 is 1.66:1, for example 4 is 1.1:1, and example 5 is 1:1. Also, there is no teaching that a person having ordinary skill in the art would want to increase the ratio to 3:1.

In regard to independent claim 5, Okubo et al. is the closest prior art. In example 7, 2-methyl-4-ethylimidazole is used in an amount of 1 weight part. Assuming 1 weight part is 1 gram, this is 0.009 moles. Based on the epoxy equivalent weight of 1,6-dihydroxynaphthalene epoxy (141, para. 13), there are 0.099 equivalents of epoxy. Therefore, the ratio of moles of imidazole to epoxy equivalent is 0.09:1, which is outside of the claimed range. There is also no motivation to lower this ratio.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Megan McCulley whose telephone number is (571)270-3292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30-5:00 EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Eashoo can be reached on (571) 272-1197. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mark Eashoo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/M. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 1796